

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 STR-04

L-03 TAR-01 /033 W

----- 064729

P 050920Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6944

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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PASS AGRICULTURE FROM AG ATT

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR EI

SUBJ: VOLUNTARY MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM

REF: (A) DUBLIN 1082 (B) EC BRUSSELS 5572

1. AG ATTACHE AND ASSISTANT SAW ASSISTANT AGMIN SECRETARY WHOOLEY (MCDONAGH IS AWAY) AND CAIRNES OF BEEF SECTION TODAY. WHOOLEY REITERATED CAIRNES PREVIOUS STATEMENT (REF A) THAT IRELAND COULD NOT OFFICIALLY BE SIGNATORY TO THIS BILATERAL AGREEMENT EXCEPT THROUGH OFFICIAL EC CHANNELS. THEY SAID EC HAD HOWEVER MADE IT KNOWN UNOFFICIALLY THAT EC HAD NO OBJECTION TO SUBJECT PROGRAM. HOWEVER, IRELAND COULD NOT OFFICIALLY SIGN SUBJECT AGREEMENT ON STRENGTH OF UNOFFICIAL EC APPROVAL.

2. EMBASSY RECEIVED YESTERDAY A WRITTEN UNDERTAKING FROM THE IRISH FRESH MEAT EXPORTERS SOCIETY LIMITED TO OBSERVE THE SUBJECT AGREEMENT. TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

THE IRISH FRESH MEAT EXPORTERS' SOCIETY LTD., THE REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATION OF WHICH ALL THE AUTHORISED EXPORTERS OF FRESH, CHILLED AND FROZEN MEATS TO THE UNITED STATES ARE MEMBERS, HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT, PURSUANT TO THE RESTRAINT PROGRAMME CONCERNING

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IMPORTS OF SUCH MEATS INTO THE UNITED STATES, THE PERMISSIBLE

QUANTITY OF IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1975 FROM IRELAND WILL BE LIMITED TO 38.2 MILLION POUNDS, AS FOLLOWS:

(A) THE MEATS COVERED BY THE RESTRAINT PROGRAMME ARE FRESH, CHILLED, OR FROZEN CATTLE MEAT AND FRESH, CHILLED OR FROZEN MEAT OF GOATS AND SHEEP, EXCEPT LAMBS (US TARIFF ITEMS 106.10 AND 106.20),

(B) THE LIMIT WILL APPLY TO THE QUANTITY OF SUCH MEATS EXPORTED FROM IRELAND AS DIRECT SHIPMENTS ON A THROUGH BILL OF LADING TO THE UNITED STATES FOR ENTRY OR WITHDRAWAL FROM WAREHOUSE FOR CONSUMPTION DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1975,

(C) IF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES SHOULD INCREASE THE PERMISSIBLE TOTAL QUANTITY OF 1,161.9 MILLION POUNDS OF SUCH MEAT IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED STATES DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1975 FROM COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE RESTRAINT PROGRAMME OR SHOULD ALLOCATE ANY ESTIMATED SHORTFALL IN A SHARE OF THE RESTRAINT PROGRAMME QUANTITY OR IN THE INITIAL ESTIMATES OF IMPORTS FROM COUNTRIES NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE RESTRAINT PROGRAMME, AN INCREASE SHALL BE ALLOCATED TO IRELAND, IF NO SHORTFALL IS ESTIMATED FOR HER, IN THE PROPORTION WHICH HER INITIAL SHARE OF 38.2 MILLION POUNDS BEARS TO THE TOTAL INITIAL SHARES OF ALL COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE RESTRAINT PROGRAMME WHICH ARE ESTIMATED TO HAVE NO SHORTFALLS.

(D) ANY MEAT REJECTED AS UNACCEPTABLE FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION UNDER UNITED STATES INSPECTION STANDARDS WILL NOT BE REGARDED AS PART OF THE QUANTITY WITHIN THE RESTRAINT LIMIT.

(E) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE END OF EACH MONTH THE IRISH FRESH MEAT EXPORTERS' SOCIETY LTD., WILL PROVIDE TO YOUR EXCELLENCY FOR TRANSMISSION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES DETAILS OF THE SCHEDULED ARRIVALS TO 31 DECEMBER 1975, SHIP BY SHIP AND PORT BY PORT, BASED ON ACTUAL LOADINGS IN IRELAND.

THE IRISH FRESH MEAT EXPORTERS' SOCIETY LTD., HEREBY UNDERTAKE, ON BEHALF OF ALL THE IRISH EXPORTERS CONCERNED, TO LIMIT EXPORTS OF THE MEATS IN QUESTION TO THE UNITED STATES DURING THE CALENDAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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YEAR 1975 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOREGOING ARRANGEMENTS AND WILL BE GLAD IF YOUR EXCELLENCY WILL SO INFORM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE SOCIETY'S UNDERTAKING IS OF COURSE GIVEN ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THERE WILL BE NO MORE FAVOURABLE INCREASE, IN RELATION TO THE INITIAL ESTIMATES, IN IMPORTS FROM COUNTRIES NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE 1975 RESTRAINT PROGRAMME.

END TEXT

3. IT APPEARS THAT GOI HOPE THAT UNOFFICIAL UNDERTAKING BY MEAT TRADE, MONITORED BY GOI, WILL SATISFY USG IN THIS INSTANCE TO AVOID COMPLICATIONS WITH EC.

4. HOWEVER, WHOOLEY PROMISED TO QUERY BRUSSELS TODAY ON MATTER, QUOTING SUBSTANCE OF INFORMATION WE RECEIVED IN REF B.

5. IN VIEW OF CONTINUING CONFUSION OVER WHETHER OR NOT IRELAND CAN OFFICIALLY SIGN, WE REQUEST USG VIEW AS TO WHETHER IRISH TRADE UNDERTAKING AND OR SIGNING SUBJECT AGREEMENT BY IRISH TRADE REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE SUFFICIENT FOR THIS PURPOSE.
REND AHL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, MEATS, IMPORT QUOTAS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DUBLIN01181
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750233-0124
From: DUBLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750782/aaaacvfl.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 DUBLIN 1082, 75 EC BRUSSELS 5572
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 APR 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <14 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VOLUNTARY MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM
TAGS: EPAP, ETRD, EI, US, EEC, (WHOOLEY)
To: STATE EC BRUSSELS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006